(c) the items, if any, banned by India for imports from Pakistan, which have been cleared for imports from Pakistan in reciprocation thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken to promote mutual trade between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) In response to Prime Minister's Srinagar initiative of 18th April, 2003 and in follow up to the steps announced by Prime Minister in Parliament on 2nd May, 2003, Pakistan Prime Minister in his statement on May, 6, 2003 announced the inclusion of additional 78 items on the positive list of goods which can be imported from India. We are yet to receive any official notification in this regard from the Government of Pakistan.

(c) There is no ban on import of any item from Pakistan to India.

(d) As a signatory to WTO, India has continued to accord Most Favoured Nation (MFN) status to Pakistan. India has also been exchanging tariff concessions with South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) member countries under SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA). Other trade promotion measures include exchange of business delegations, participation in fairs, exhibitions and Buyer Seller Meets etc.

Barriers in Agricultural Exports

726. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister during his visit to St. Peterburg, in his maiden speech at the enlarged dialogue of the G-8 called for phase-out of the trade distorting agricultural subsidies and removal of barriers to agricultural exports, while ensuring the livelihood and security of billions of farmers in developing countries.

(b) if so, what were the specific barriers in agricultural exports sought to be removed by the Prime Minister; and

(c) what was the response of the G-8 countries thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b)The Hon'ble Prime Minister made this statement at the G-8 Enlarged Dialogue in Evian on June 1, 2003, and not during his visit to St. Petersburg. Prime Minister expressed disappointment at the lack of progress so far on the Millennium Development Round since the Doha Meeting. Prime Minister underlined the need to rapidly eliminate tariff and non-tariff barriers to developing country exports and to phase out all trade distorting agricultural subsidies, while ensuring the livelihood security of billions of farmers in developing countries.

(c) The issues raised by the Hon'ble Prime Minister were also reflected in the statements of some of the other developing country participants in the Enlarged Dialogue. While there was no formal comment by the G-8 on the issues raised in the dialogue, some of the concerns were reflected in the G-8 Declaration adopted on 3rd June, 2003. In particular, the Declaration reiterated the importance of improved market access for all World Trade Organisation (WTO) Members in all trade areas, including in agricultural and non-agricultural goods, in order to benefit economic growth, in particular, in the developing countries. The Declaration directs G-8 Members to work with WTO Members towards developing, *inter-alia,* fairer and less distorted conditions for world trade.

Improvement of infrastructure in Rajasthan

727. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds, as proposed by the State Government of Rajasthan and the amount allocated for improvement of the infrastructure in industrial areas of the State for the year 2003-04 as compared to 2002-03;